

By: Workman

H.R. No. 293

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The city of Austin lost a gifted musician and an
2 inspiring educator with the passing of Bruce Dinkins on June 22,
3 2011, at the age of 60; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Buffalo, New York, Mr. Dinkins was born
5 on April 12, 1951, to Autumn and Claude Dinkins; he discovered his
6 passion for the clarinet at an early age and earned the distinction
7 of first chair in the Florida All-State Band while he was still in
8 high school; he went on to earn his bachelor's degree in clarinet
9 performance from the University of Tampa and his master's degree
10 from The New England Conservatory before pursuing additional
11 graduate studies at Florida State University and The Juilliard
12 School; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Dinkins toured Europe as part of the New England
14 Conservatory Orchestra, featuring Gunther Schuller and Leonard
15 Bernstein; he also performed with the Jacksonville and Macon
16 Symphonies, conducted the Memphis Youth Symphony, and served as the
17 conductor-in-residence of the Sewanee Summer Music Festival in
18 Sewanee, Tennessee, for more than 25 summers; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Dinkins began his notable teaching career at
20 Florida Junior College and Jacksonville University; he worked with
21 Emory University in Atlanta and later became a high school band
22 director, holding positions in Georgia and South Carolina before
23 arriving in the Lone Star State; and

24 WHEREAS, For the past decade, Mr. Dinkins led the band at

1 James Bowie High School in Austin; he was beloved by his students,
2 and under his able direction, they achieved great success; in
3 addition to earning the University Interscholastic League concert
4 and marching Sweepstakes awards every year, the group was honored
5 by the John Philip Sousa Foundation with the prestigious Sudler
6 Shield and became Grand National Champions at the Smoky Mountain
7 Music Festival; Mr. Dinkins was also personally recognized with his
8 induction into the American Bandmasters Association, an
9 accomplishment of which he was especially proud; and

10 WHEREAS, In all of his endeavors, he enjoyed the support of
11 his wife of 29 years, Hildy, and he took great joy in his children,
12 Jordan and Adam; and

13 WHEREAS, Though it is impossible to gauge the full effect of a
14 man's life, some individuals leave their unmistakable mark on the
15 world as they move through it, and Bruce Dinkins's contributions to
16 his students and profession will long resonate in the lives of all
17 who knew him; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
19 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby pay tribute to the life of
20 Bruce Dinkins and extend deepest sympathy to the members of his
21 family: to his wife, Hildy Edelman Dinkins; to his daughter,
22 Jordan; to his son, Adam; to his brother, Paul Dinkins, and his
23 wife, Sharon; and to his other relatives and many friends; and, be
24 it further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
26 prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of
27 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Bruce

1 Dinkins.